

House Resolution

No. 43

**Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Ammiano, Atkins,
Eggman, and John A. Pérez)**

June 2, 2014

House Resolution No. 43—Relative to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month.

1 WHEREAS, Our great state and nation consistently and
2 diligently strives to promote the egalitarian principles of equality
3 and justice where all people have inalienable rights, including life,
4 liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and
5 WHEREAS, California's and America's diversity is one of our
6 greatest strengths; and
7 WHEREAS, To achieve a just and fair society, we must teach
8 our children to respect one another, to appreciate our differences,
9 and to recognize the common good in all of us; and
10 WHEREAS, Our great state protects its residents from
11 discrimination and harassment based on actual or perceived race,
12 ethnicity, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, physical or
13 mental ability, medical condition, sex, including gender identity
14 or expression, or sexual orientation; and
15 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
16 have made important and lasting contributions to our great state
17 and nation in every field of endeavor, including, but not limited
18 to, business, medicine, law, humanities, science, literature, politics,
19 education, music, philanthropy, sports and athletics, arts, and
20 culture, that enrich our national life; and

1 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
2 come from all walks of life, regardless of race, ethnicity, color,
3 religion, ancestry, national origin, economic status, physical or
4 mental ability, medical condition, sex, or gender identity or
5 expression; and

6 WHEREAS, For the first time in the history of the United States,
7 a sitting President and Vice President, President Barack Obama
8 and Vice President Joe Biden, affirmed their support for the
9 fundamental right to marry, regardless of sexual orientation or
10 gender. Former Vice President Dick Cheney and former First Lady
11 Laura Bush have also affirmed their support for marriage equality;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, The Supreme Court of the United States struck
14 down the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8, which barred
15 the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages and
16 restored marriage equality to California, respectively; and

17 WHEREAS, Married same-sex couples now enjoy the same
18 rights and privileges granted to other married couples, including
19 joint tax filings, military benefits, family and medical leave, and
20 the ability to sponsor their foreign spouse; and

21 WHEREAS, The Department of Defense repealed “Don’t Ask,
22 Don’t Tell,” allowing servicemen and women to serve their country
23 openly and proudly; and

24 WHEREAS, More lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people
25 are being elected to public offices across the country, playing in
26 professional sports leagues, occupying the highest positions in
27 business, and serving as role models for all; and

28 WHEREAS, While our great state and nation have progressed
29 in our journey toward dignity, understanding, and mutual respect
30 for all, we still have a long way to go in eradicating the prejudice
31 and discrimination that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender
32 people and their families encounter, and to this end, we continue
33 working for the passage of the inclusive federal Employment
34 Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), comprehensive immigration
35 reform, and increased awareness of the difficulties facing the
36 transgender community; and

37 WHEREAS, To build a stronger and better state and nation, we
38 must continue to help advance the cause of equality for all people;
39 and

1 WHEREAS, Friends and allies of the LGBT community have
2 shown considerable support and commitment to the struggles of
3 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people at home and abroad;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Each year, June marks the anniversary of the
6 Stonewall Rebellion that gave birth to the modern lesbian, gay,
7 bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement; and

8 WHEREAS, President Barack Obama has proclaimed June as
9 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month and
10 reaffirmed his administration's goal of eliminating prejudice
11 everywhere it exists and celebrating the great diversity of the
12 American people; and

13 WHEREAS, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans,
14 their families and friends, and all those committed to justice and
15 equality celebrate, during the month of June, the rich culture, the
16 notable achievements, and the outstanding services that lesbian,
17 gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans make to our great state
18 and nation; now, therefore, be it

19 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
20 Assembly proclaims June 2014 as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and
21 Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, urges all residents to join in
22 celebrating the culture, accomplishments, and contributions of
23 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people, and encourages the
24 people of California to work to help advance the cause of equality
25 for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their
26 families; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
28 of this resolution to the Members of the Legislature and to the
29 author for appropriate distribution.